

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, I had the opportunity to celebrate the cold winter in Minnesota by getting together with hundreds of others and jumping through a hole in the ice and into a freezing lake.

Now, while some may think that many Minnesotans consider this normal recreational activity in the winter, it actually was to raise money for a very worthwhile cause.

The Polar Plunge, which takes place throughout Minnesota and other areas of the country all winter long, raises millions of dollars for the Special Olympics programs. This important funding allows more than 7,200 Special Olympics athletes in Minnesota to grow and thrive through a variety of competitions.

I want to thank our State's law enforcement for organizing the plunges, Channel 9's Ian Leonard for giving his selfless time and energy to support this cause and events, to all those who pledged their support for the participants, and of course, those who are crazy enough to jump in the middle of the winter through a hole in the ice.

Mr. Speaker, I want to offer and congratulate the support for the Special Olympics, an organization that is truly life-changing for its participants and their families.

GIRL SCOUTS

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the service of our Nation's Girl Scouts.

On this week, more than 100 years ago, Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low officially registered the Girl Scouts' first 18 members. Since that time, the Girl Scouts experience has enriched the lives of millions of girls, their families, and our communities.

I am especially proud to highlight the hard work of Felicia Dodge, a Girl Scout from Glenville, New York. Felicia is currently working on her Gold Award project to help create a sustainable sewing program at a local school in Haiti.

Felicia's project empowers the community to clothe themselves and hone the skills to run a sustainable business. Her hard work and certainly her involvement will send over 600 pounds of materials and supplies to the school. I applaud Felicia for her thoughtful and certainly inspiring endeavor.

On behalf of the citizens of the 20th Congressional District of New York, I thank the Girl Scouts of northeastern New York for their commitment and for their service to our communities.

EDUCATION IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT

(Mr. FLEISCHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor America's teachers. I do that because I spoke with my 17-year-old son, who is a junior at Silverdale Baptist Academy, and he was asking me about teachers.

Now, most of you all know I had two elementary schools, three middle schools, and two high schools in my own career. I told my son how important teaching is. Just think about it: all across America today and in all of our 50 States, teachers are teaching and inspiring our children.

Education is critically important, whether it is in the private sector or in the public sector. It is so critically important that we get it right, and teaching is such a noble profession.

I wanted to rise today, Mr. Speaker, and just say thank you to our Nation's teachers. Keep up the great work. Keep inspiring our young minds, so that we can continue to move ahead as a great Nation.

THOMSON PRISON

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the Thomson Correctional Center, a facility that has sat vacant in the town of Thomson, a small village in northern Illinois, since it was built by the State of Illinois in 2001.

For more than a decade, the people of my region have been thirsting for the jobs and the economic opportunity that the opening of this facility would bring.

Yesterday, we received the very good news that we had been waiting for, for a long time. This was delivered to us from the Bureau of Prisons, which announced that they will designate the funding to activate the Thomson Correctional Center.

This investment means construction can soon begin. It means that workers can soon begin competing for good-paying jobs, and it means that northern Illinois will no longer be home to an empty prison.

When fully open, the Thomson Correctional Center will add 1,100 jobs to our region and will add \$200 million in annual economic impact. The prison's activation will not only be good for our economy, but it will also generate a sense of pride among the people I serve in the surrounding communities. We finally will see the dormant facility put to good use.

REINING IN EXECUTIVE OVERREACH

(Mr. SMITH of Missouri asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, President Obama and the administration have taken the uber-Presidency to a whole new level.

Time and time again, we have seen President Obama stretch the constitutional limits of the office. When President Obama simply disagrees with a law, he just ignores it. Mr. Speaker, no person is above the law.

The House of Representatives is committed to living by the Constitution and holding the administration accountable. The ENFORCE Act will give Congress the ability to bring a lawsuit against the President for failing to execute our laws.

The Faithful Execution of the Law Act will require any Federal official who is not enforcing a Federal law to report to Congress on the reason for nonenforcement. Mr. Speaker, the ENFORCE Act and the Faithful Execution of the Law Act uphold the Constitution.

These bills send a clear message that no one is above the law, and we will not have the Constitution be disregarded.

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the important research being done at the Department of Defense into treating tuberous sclerosis complex or TSC.

Individuals with TSC experience tumors in the brain and other vital organs, which can result in seizures, kidney failure, and other serious health problems. I have had the opportunity to meet with people affected by this illness and understand how critical it is to continue medical research into treatments while scientists develop a cure for TSC.

Funding the DOD TSC research program is essential in developing new clinical treatments and medical breakthroughs for the disorder. In addition, this research has applications for other medical conditions, such as traumatic brain injuries, which are common in combat and sports injuries. TSC research breakthroughs will likely also have applications to some specific cancers.

By committing support and funding for this important research, we give hope to those living with TSC and other chronic illnesses to help them live long and healthy lives.

SITES RESERVOIR

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, California is suffering from its worst drought in at least 35 years, maybe as much as 400 years; though lately, the Good Lord has sought to bless us with about 5 inches of rain on my farm and my neighborhood, we can't let that be a cause for inaction. Indeed, the Good Lord helps those who help themselves.

It is time to build. It has been time to build, for a long time, the type of